

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/EP2003/005831



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P036031/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/005831	International filing date (day/month/year) 04 June 2003 (04.06.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 17 July 2002 (17.07.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B62D 25/08		
Applicant DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 4 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 20 November 2003 (20.11.2003)	Date of completion of this report 28 October 2004 (28.10.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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International application No.

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I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

☐ the international application as originally filed

☒ the description:

pages _____ 2-5 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____ 1, 1a _____, filed with the letter of _____ 27 July 2004 (27.07.2004)

☒ the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____ 1-7 _____, filed with the letter of _____ 27 July 2004 (27.07.2004)

☒ the drawings:

pages _____ 1/4-4/4 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

☐ the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
☐ the claims, Nos. _____
☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-7	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-7	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-7	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

1 Reference is made to the following document:

D1: DATABASE WPI Section PQ, Week 199927 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class Q12, AN 1999-322862 XP002255210 & JP 11 115812 A (NISSAN MOTOR CO LTD) 27 April 1999 (1999-04-27)

2 Document D1, which is considered the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1, discloses (the references between parentheses relate to said document): a motor vehicle body having a strut arrangement (17) for supporting a component (4) of a front-end structure (figure 1) on a crossrail (13) running under the windscreen, wherein the strut arrangement (17) comprises a strut via which a suspension strut dome (4) of the front-end structure (10) is supported on the crossrail (13), and the strut of the strut arrangement (17) has at least one fixing point for a wiper drive of a windscreen wiper system (implicit from the WPI abstract in the paragraph "ADVANTAGE").

The subject matter of claim 1 differs therefore from

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the known body in that the wiper drive is mounted on the underside of the strut and a drive shaft of the wiper drive runs through the strut.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

- 3 The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be considered that of providing more assembly space above the strut arrangement.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step for the following reasons (PCT Article 33(3)):

A person skilled in the art would secure the windscreen wiper system to a different strut arrangement so as to create more space.

- 4 Claims 2-7 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.

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Motor vehicle body
comprising a strut arrangement

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The invention relates to a motor vehicle body of the type as specified in the preamble of patent claim 1.

10 A body of a motor vehicle comprising a strut arrangement may be gathered as known from JP 11115812 A, via which a spring strut dome of a fore-part structure is supported on a cross member arranged underneath a windshield. The strut arrangement in this case comprises a fastening point at which various
15 vehicle components, for example the windshield wiping system, are to be fastened.

A windshield wiping system may be gathered as known from GB 2 258 145 A, which is fastened to a bearer of a
20 motor vehicle body via a damping element.

Finally, a motor vehicle body may be gathered as known from DE 199 28 588 A1, in which a strut arrangement having two struts is provided for increasing the
25 flexural and torsional strength of the body. The two struts are supported at one end on a crossmember running underneath the windshield and at the other end on the respectively assigned component of the fore-part structure of the body.

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The object on which the invention is based is to provide a motor vehicle body of the type initially mentioned, the strut arrangement of which is designed to assume further functions.

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- 1a -

The solution according to the invention for achieving this object arises from the features of the main claim.

Advantageous refinements of the invention may be
5 gathered from the remaining claims.

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27.07.2004Patent Claims

1. A motor vehicle body comprising a strut arrangement (22) for supporting a component (20) of a fore-part structure (10) on a crossmember (12) running underneath the windshield, the strut arrangement (22) comprising a strut (24), via which a spring strut dome (20) of the fore-part structure (10) is supported on the crossmember (12), and a strut (24) of the strut arrangement (22) having at least one fastening point of a wiper drive (28) of a windshield wiping system (26), characterized in that the wiper drive (28) is arranged on the underside (32) of the strut (24), and a drive shaft (40) of the wiper drive (28) passes through the strut (24).

2. The motor vehicle body as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the wiper drive (28) is fastened to an end region, facing the crossmember (12), of the strut (24).

3. The motor vehicle body as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the strut (24) is fastened to an inside (30), facing the vehicle center, of the spring strut dome (20).

4. The motor vehicle body as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that a bearing point (54, 56) of a windshield wiper of the windshield wiping system (26) is held by the strut arrangement (22).

5. The motor vehicle body as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the bearing point (54, 56) of the windshield wiper is carried by a holding arm (58, 60) which projects laterally from the strut (24).

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6. The motor vehicle body as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the strut (24) is supported on the spring strut dome (20) and on the crossmember (12) via a damping element.

7. The motor vehicle body as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the wiper drive (28) is fastened to the strut (24) via a damping element.

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